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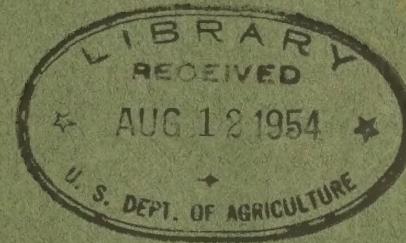
DIVISION OF COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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REPORT OF
REGIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL FOR
NEGRO EXTENSION AGENTS

Under auspices of
Division of Cooperative Extension
United States Department of Agriculture

In cooperation with
State Extension Services
Southern States



Held at

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama
August 2-21, 1937

United States Department of Agriculture

Extension Service C. W. Warburton
Director

Division of Cooperative Extension C. B. Smith
Assistant Director

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

873140

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
October 13, 1937.

Sir:

I have the honor of transmitting a brief report of the special summer course for Negro extension workers held at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, August 2-21, 1937.

In view of the fact that this course was mapped out by the southern directors, it is perhaps safe to say that the course of study came more nearly meeting the needs of the extension agents than any system of training yet provided for them.

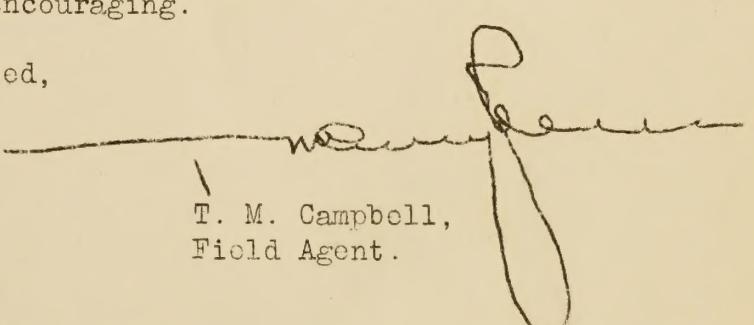
The instructors were chosen from specialists from the Washington and State extension offices, hence their teaching, based on actual field experience, was very effective.

Tuskegee Institute, also, through its various departments, rendered valuable service.

The agents manifested their intense interest in the entire course and expressed their appreciation of the privilege granted them to attend.

The prospects for future training of all Negro agents now in service are indeed encouraging.

Respectfully submitted,


T. M. Campbell,
Field Agent.

Mr. C. L. Chambers,
In Charge, Southern States,
Extension Service,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

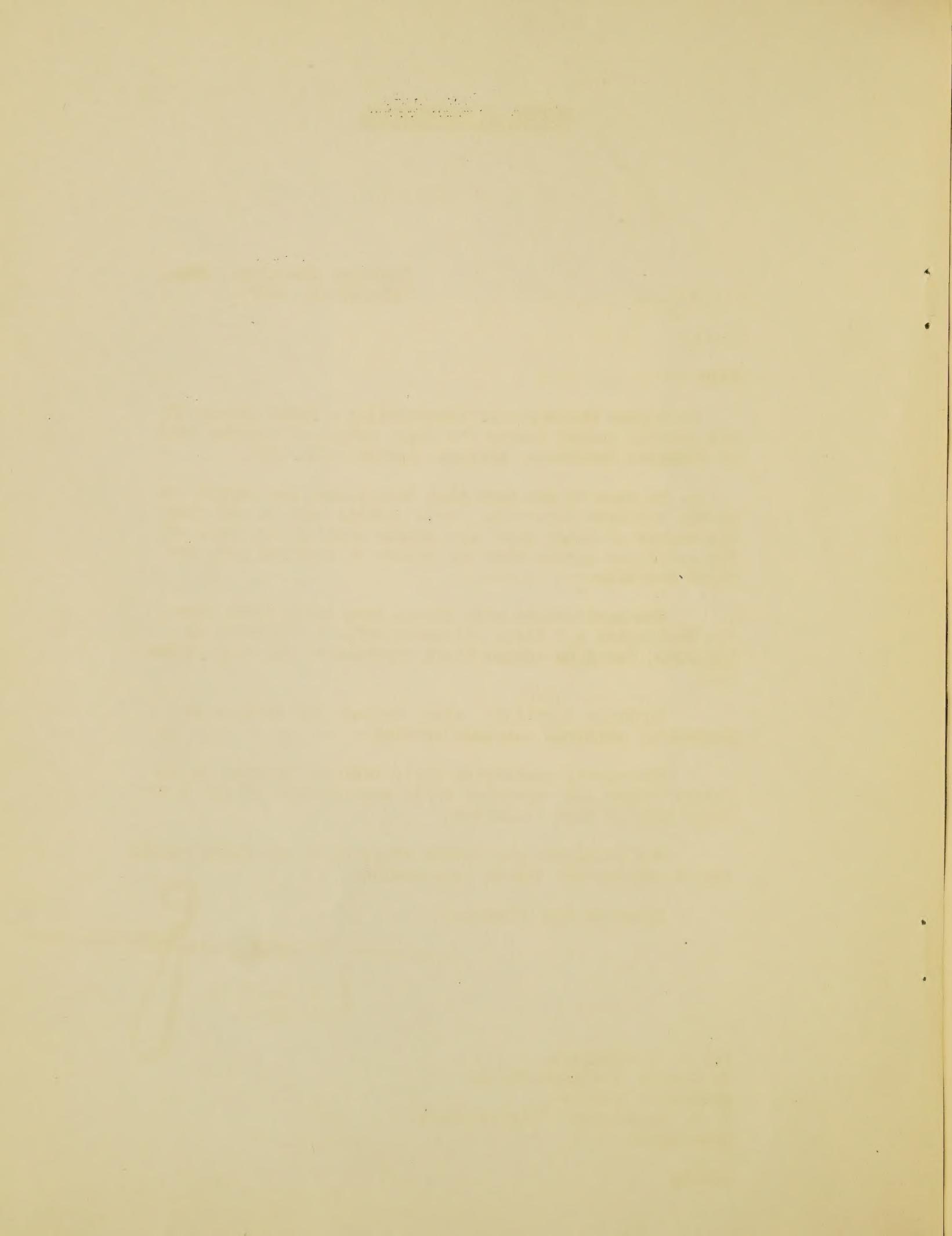
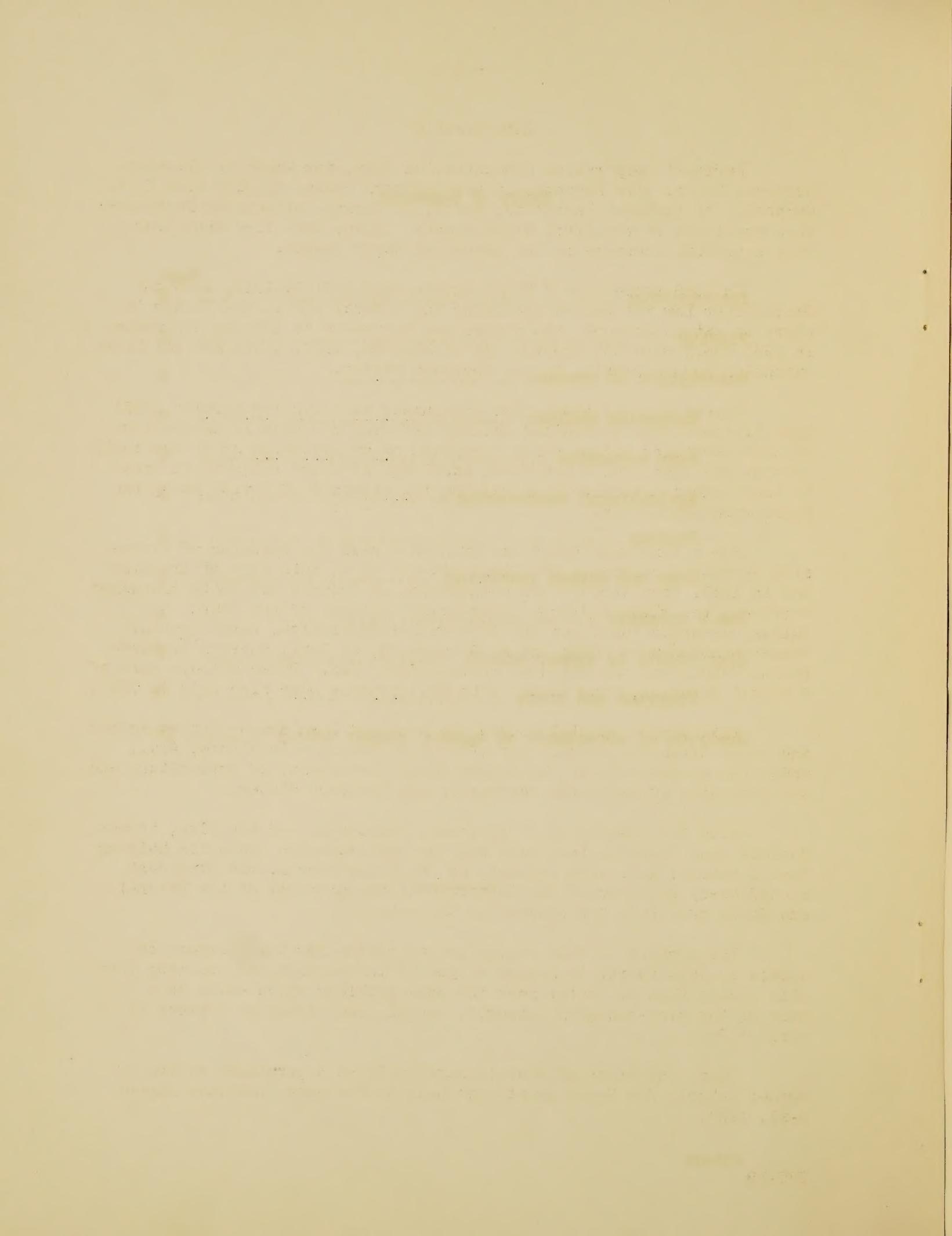


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Introduction

Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work, now known as Extension Service, began, with Negroes, in the Southern States in 1906 when T. M. Campbell, of Tuskegee Institute, and J. B. Pierce, of Hampton Institute, were appointed as the first Negro agents. Since that time there has been a gradual increase in the number of Negro agents.

In 1908 there were 7 Negro agents employed; by 1914, when the Smith-Lever Law was passed providing for Federal aid to the States to carry on extension work, the number had increased to 100 men and women. In 1930 there were 330 agents. As of June 30, 1937, there are 451 Negro extension agents working in the Southern States.

Experience has shown that appointees to extension service shall have finished some accredited college offering a course in agriculture or home economics before being appointed as an extension agent and shall have at the same time a practical knowledge of these subjects in order to assist most effectively in raising the standard of living among the Negro farm population.

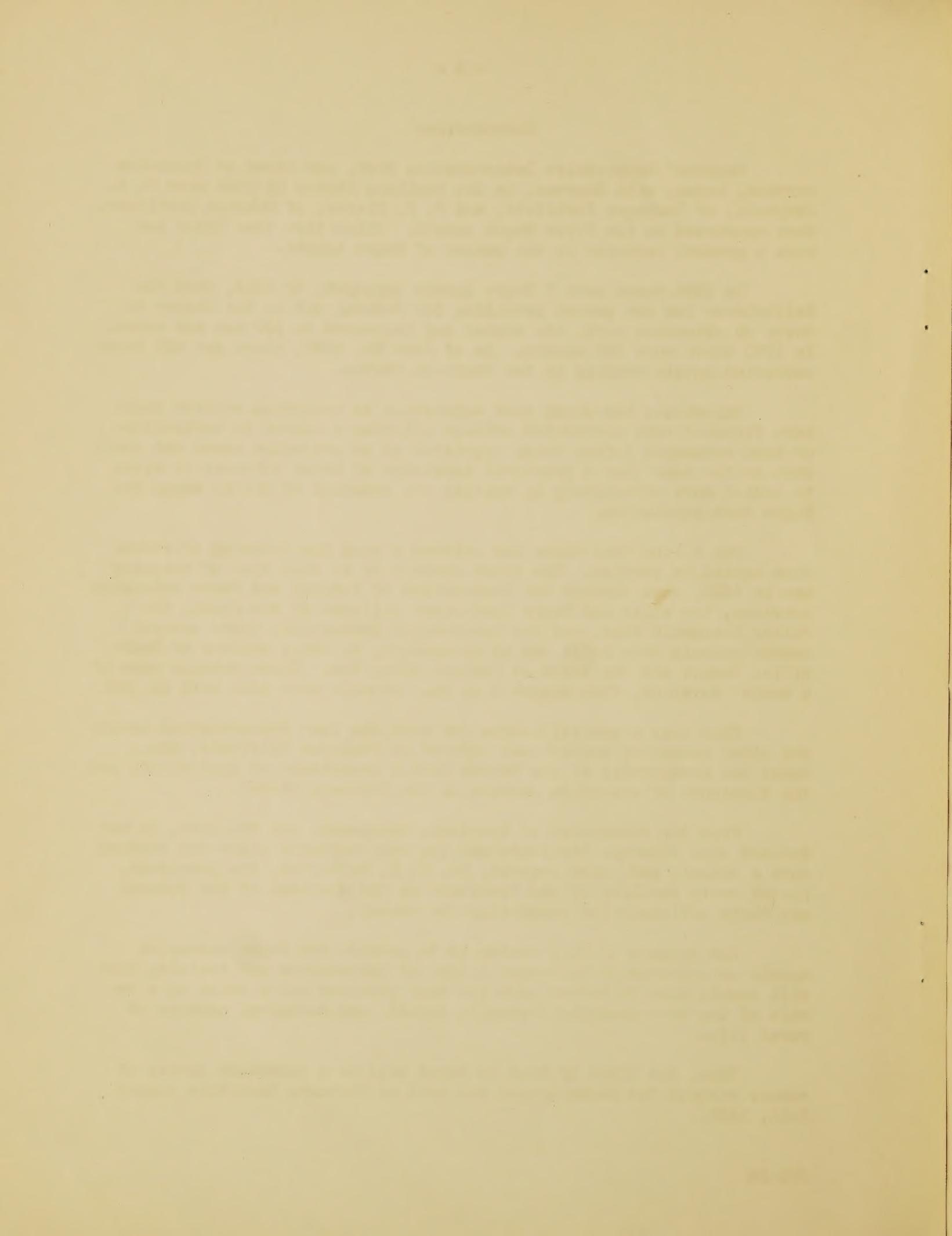
For a long time there has existed a need for training of extension agents in service. The first attempt to do this type of training was in 1930, when through the cooperation of Federal and State extension services, the white and Negro land-grant colleges of the South, the Julius Rosenwald Fund, and the Interracial Commission, three special summer schools were held: one at Orangeburg, S. Car.; another at Nashville, Tenn.; and the third at Prairie View, Tex. These schools were of 4 weeks' duration, from August 4 to 30. Schools were also held in 1931.

This year a special course for home and farm demonstration agents and other extension workers was offered at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., under the sponsorship of the United States Department of Agriculture and the directors of extension service in the Southern States.

From the standpoint of location, equipment, and the like, it was decided that Tuskegee Institute was the most suitable place for holding such a school, and, upon request, Dr. F. D. Patterson, the president, placed every facility of the Institute at the disposal of the Federal and State officials for conducting the school.

The purpose of this course is to provide for Negro extension agents an opportunity to secure a type of information and training that will enable them to better meet the many problems which arise as a result of the ever-changing economic, social, and technical aspects of rural life.

Thus, the first of what is hoped will be a permanent system of summer schools for Negro agents was held at Tuskegee Institute August 2-21, 1937.



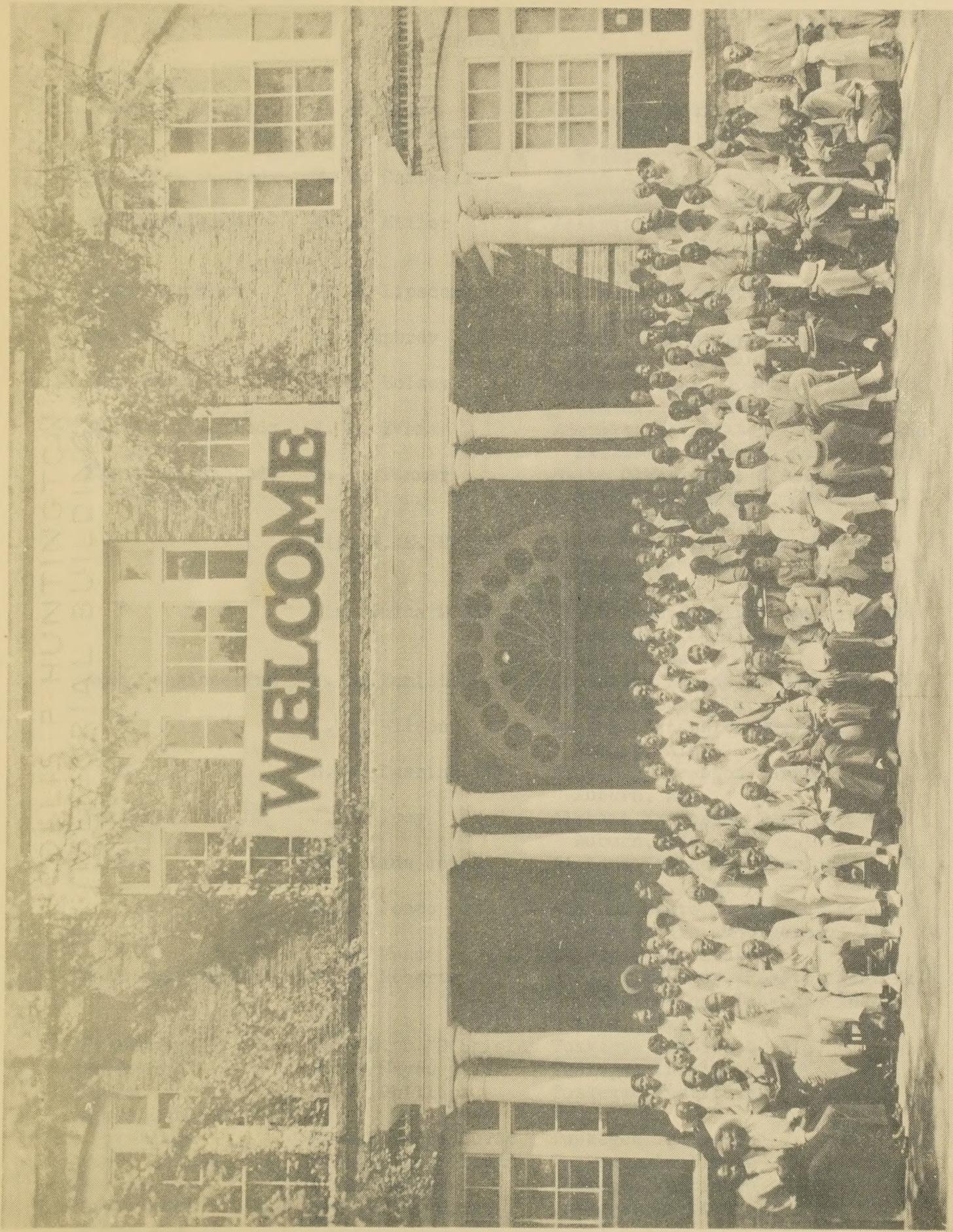
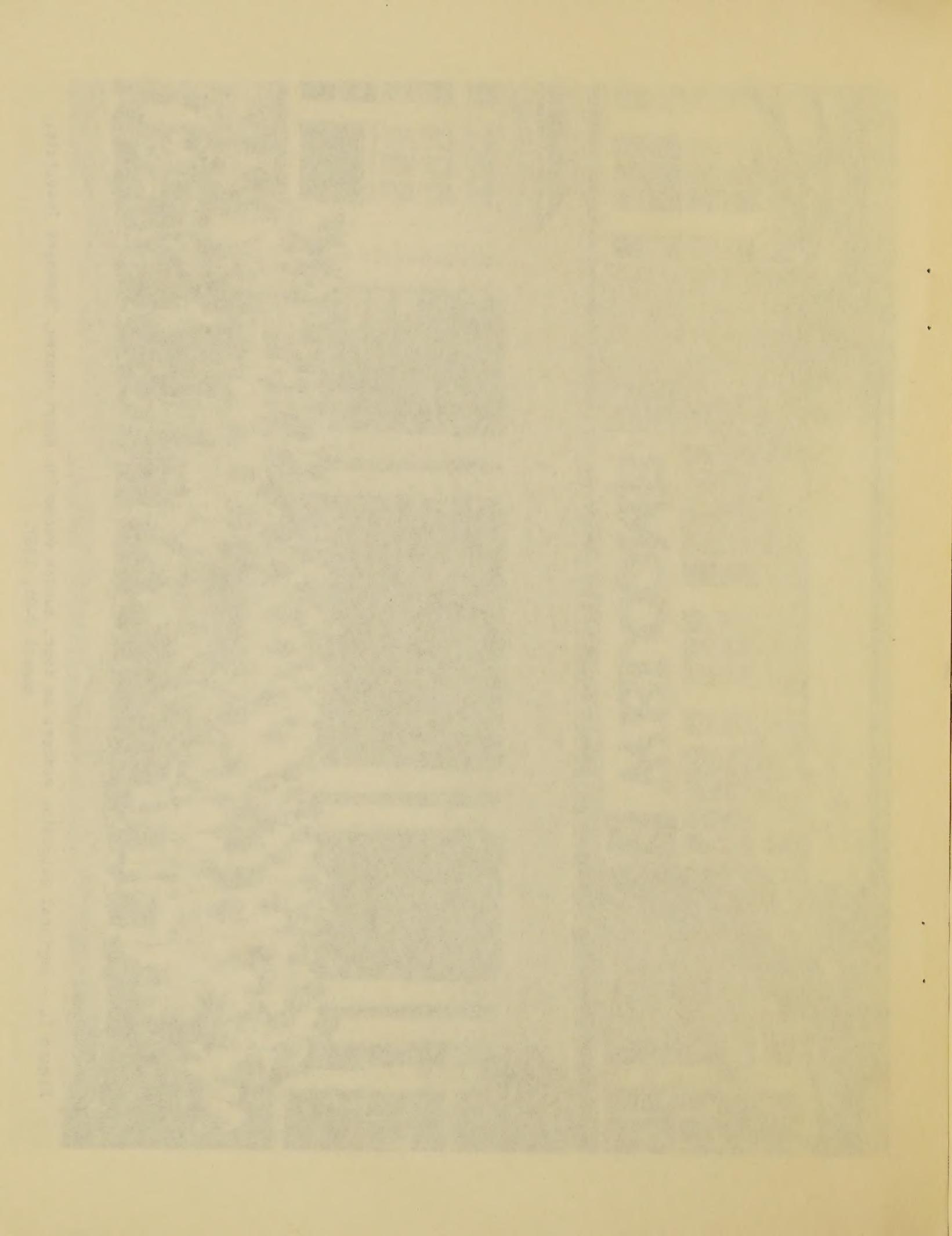


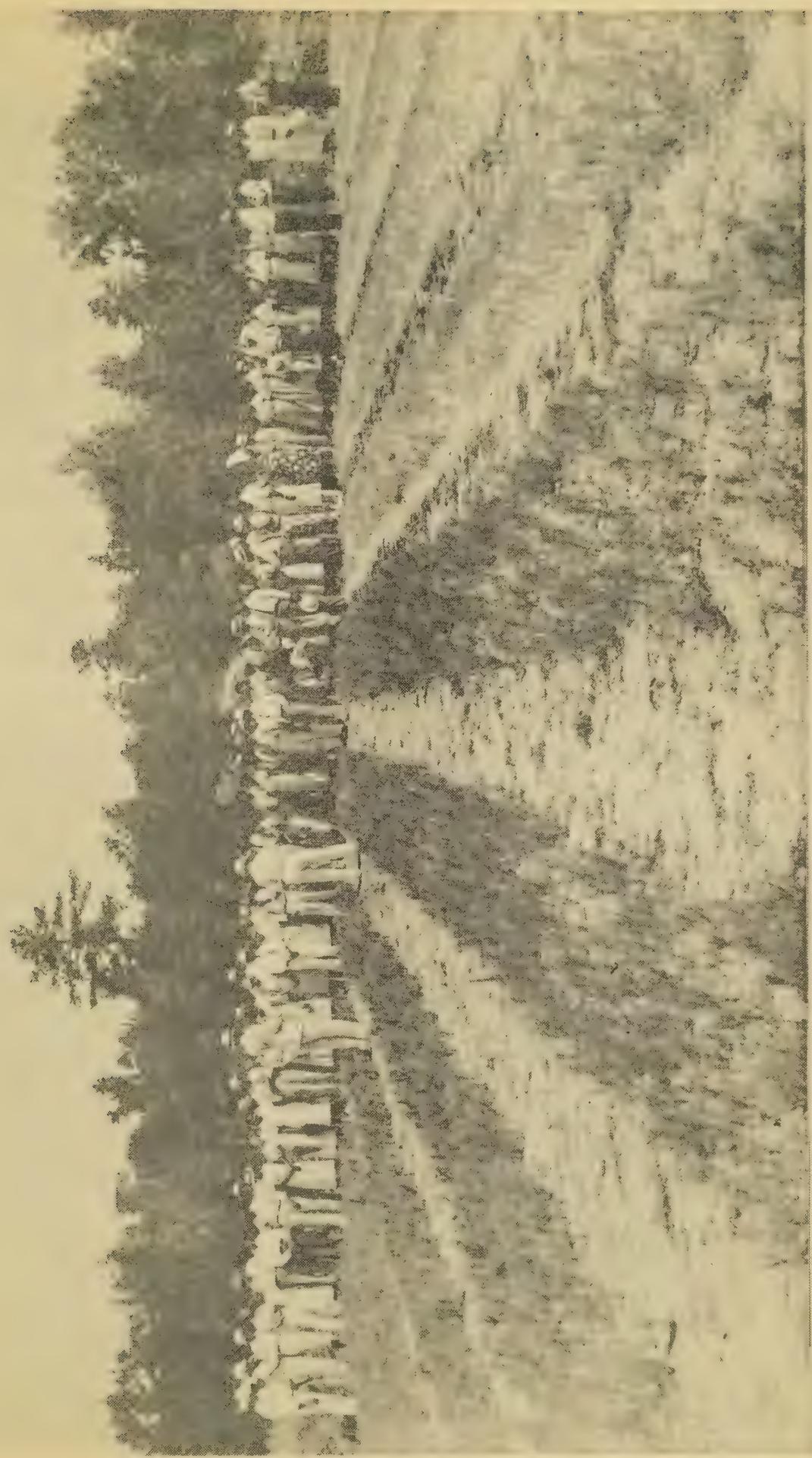
Figure 1. - Regional extension workers on tour, summer extension short course, Tuskegee Institute, August 2-21, 1937.

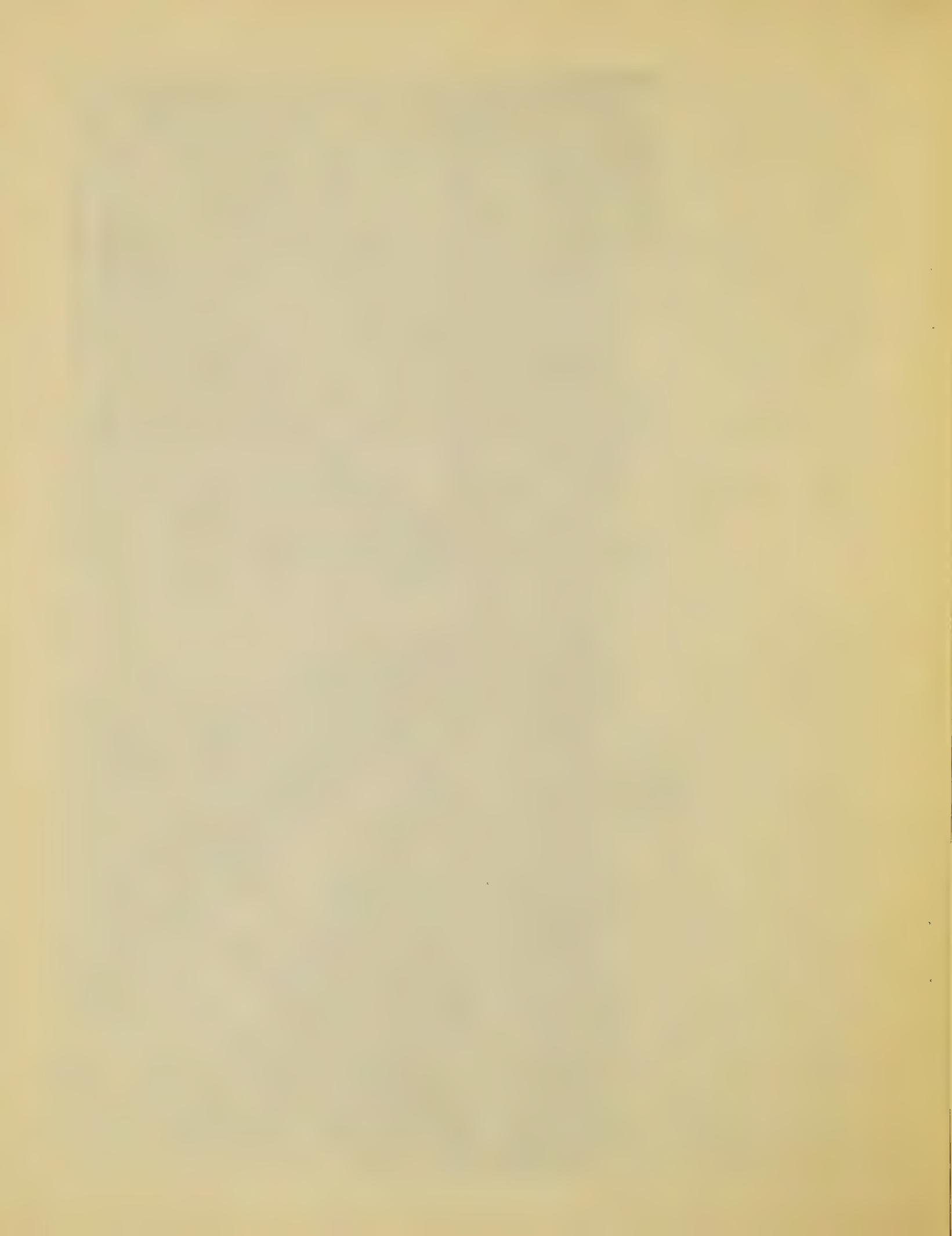


Faculty

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Director of summer school | J. R. Otis | Tuskegee Institute, Ala. |
| Extension methods | C. A. Sheffield | Field Agent, Extension Service, Washington, D. C. |
| Extension methods (tours) | T. M. Campbell | Field Agent, Extension Service, Tuskegee Institute, Ala. |
| Farm economics | E. A. Miller | Assistant to Director, Southern Division, A.A.A., Washington, D. C. |
| Farm economics | T. C. Lipscomb | Southern Division, A.A.A., Washington, D. C. |
| Poultry | D. Humphrey | Extension Poultry Specialist, Washington, D. C. |
| Publicity | A. L. Holsey | Field Officer, Southern Division, A.A.A., Tuskegee Institute, Ala. |
| Extension methods (history) | J. A. Evans | Administrative Assistant, Georgia Extension Service, Athens, Ga. |
| Extension methods (4-H Clubs) | J. E. Tanner | State Club Agent, Mississippi Extension Service, State College, Miss. |
| " " | Miss E. E. Massey | State Club Agent, Mississippi Extension Service, State College, Miss. |
| " " | Miss Ouida Midkiff | Clothing Specialist, Mississippi Extension Service, State College, Miss. |
| Agri. engineering | F. S. Edmiston | Louisiana Extension Service, Baton Rouge, La. |
| " " | J. B. Wilson | Alabama Extension Service, Auburn, Ala. |
| " " | H. W. Dearing, Jr. | Alabama Extension Service, Auburn, Ala. |
| Poultry | J. E. Ivey | Alabama Extension Service, Auburn, Ala. |
| " | Mrs. Lida Jones | Alabama Extension Service, Wetumpka, Ala. |
| " | W. A. Jones | Alabama State Department of Agriculture, Montgomery, Ala. |
| " | J. R. Mundy | Tuskegee Institute |
| Land utilization | T. N. Roberts | Project Manager, Resettlement Administration, Tuskegee Institute, Ala. |
| Recreation | Mrs. M. D. O'Shields | Tuskegee Institute, Ala. |
| Gardening | W. W. Hayes | Tuskegee Institute |
| Soils | S. J. Phillips | Tuskegee Institute |
| Special rural problems | Miss Rebecca Davis | Tuskegee Institute |
| Rural health | Miss Mary Williams | Tuskegee Institute |
| Recreation | W. O'Shields | Tuskegee Institute |
| Handicraft | Mrs. C. S. Morse | Tuskegee Institute |
| Foods and nutrition | Mrs. Ruby F. Wallace | Tuskegee Institute |

Figure 2. - Inspecting forest nursery, Tuskegee development project, Resettlement Administration.





Description of Courses

Extension Methods

This course dealt with the history of Negro extension work, extension organization, publicity, demonstration tours, encampments, and recreation. Special emphasis was placed on office management, educational exhibits, training 4-H teams, farm and home demonstrations, report making, and terminology.

Farm Economics

This course was designed to give a working knowledge of the many new economic and social practices pertaining to farm and agricultural work, through a systematic study of the terminology involved. Graph reading and construction, index numbers, and the economic status of cotton and tobacco were considered.

Agricultural Engineering

The course was designed to give basic information concerning soil conservation, sanitation, plane-table map making, terracing, water supply, and farm structures.

Poultry

The purpose of this course was to give information and practice in constructing new type poultry houses, such as can be built by the average farmer at very small cost. Farm poultry production as a supplement to the major cash crop and as an enterprise to provide year-round productive work and income was stressed. The feed-egg ratio and managed production to take advantage of seasonal price variation were considered.

Home and Market Gardening

This course dealt with the year-round production of vegetables and fruits for home use and market. Land preparation, seeding, and time of seeding with respect to season were considered. A study of the Macon County Curb Market provided an added feature for this course.

Guest Speakers

Friday evening, August 6, 7 o'clock

Dr. F. D. Patterson

Director P. O. Davis

Friday evening, August 13, 7 o'clock

Dr. H. H. Bennett, Soil Conservation Service

Friday evening, August 20, 7 o'clock

Mr. Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director Extension
Service



FIGURE 3. - *Black Locust* pens for fence-line control. Discussion of their use in range management.

High Lights in Summer School

Programs and Tours

On Friday night, August 6, a program was held in the Institute chapel, at which time Dr. F. D. Patterson extended a cordial welcome to the agents in attendance at the summer school. He paid high tribute to the various agricultural services, State and national, which are endeavoring to make the necessary adjustments so that those engaged in agriculture may enjoy larger and more useful living. He pointed out the value of the summer session for Negro extension workers and predicted that the course would not only be continued but enlarged to meet the needs and requirements of the service.

Director P. O. Davis of the Alabama Extension Service, Auburn, Ala., in addressing the agents said, among other things: "The South is moving onward, and this is because of the consecrated and devoted service of men and women engaged in the various uplifting endeavors, such as the kind of service to which you are giving your time and effort that is bringing about these satisfactory results. Those who receive your instruction in the morning must apply it in the afternoon; they must apply it by their own efforts and stand by to receive the reward. You farm agents must teach people how to earn money, and then having earned it, teach them how to invest it and how to spend it. Extension work is a high form of education that goes into the daily lives of men, women, and children. Education is the only way in which human beings make progress. It is your duty as agents not only to teach but to inspire those whom you touch so that this instruction will be reflected in income averages. You must teach the people in the various sections of the South where you are at work, and especially those engaged in farming, to operate their farms so that they will be engaged in productive employment throughout the year."

On Saturday, August 7, a demonstration tour was conducted by Field Agent T. M. Campbell through the land-use project of the Resettlement Administration located at Tuskegee. The Tuskegee development project of the Resettlement Administration came into being early in 1935, at the instigation of certain far-seeing individuals, to fill a long-felt need. Eroded fields, gullied hillsides, and silt-choked streams, evidenced by poverty-stricken people, formed a serious problem in the vicinity of the project. More than 10,000 acres of this land have been purchased by the Government. On this land 34 new homes have been built, each having a barn, poultry house, smokehouse, deep well, sanitary toilet, 1/4-acre garden, and 2-acre hog lot. Thirty-four families moved on to better lands, and an intensive program of reforestation and other land-use features is being carried on by the project.

Upon leaving the project, the group was conducted to Lee County, Ala., to inspect a demonstration 4-H club camp. The agents were given an opportunity to see a model camp in operation with all the activities that accompany it.

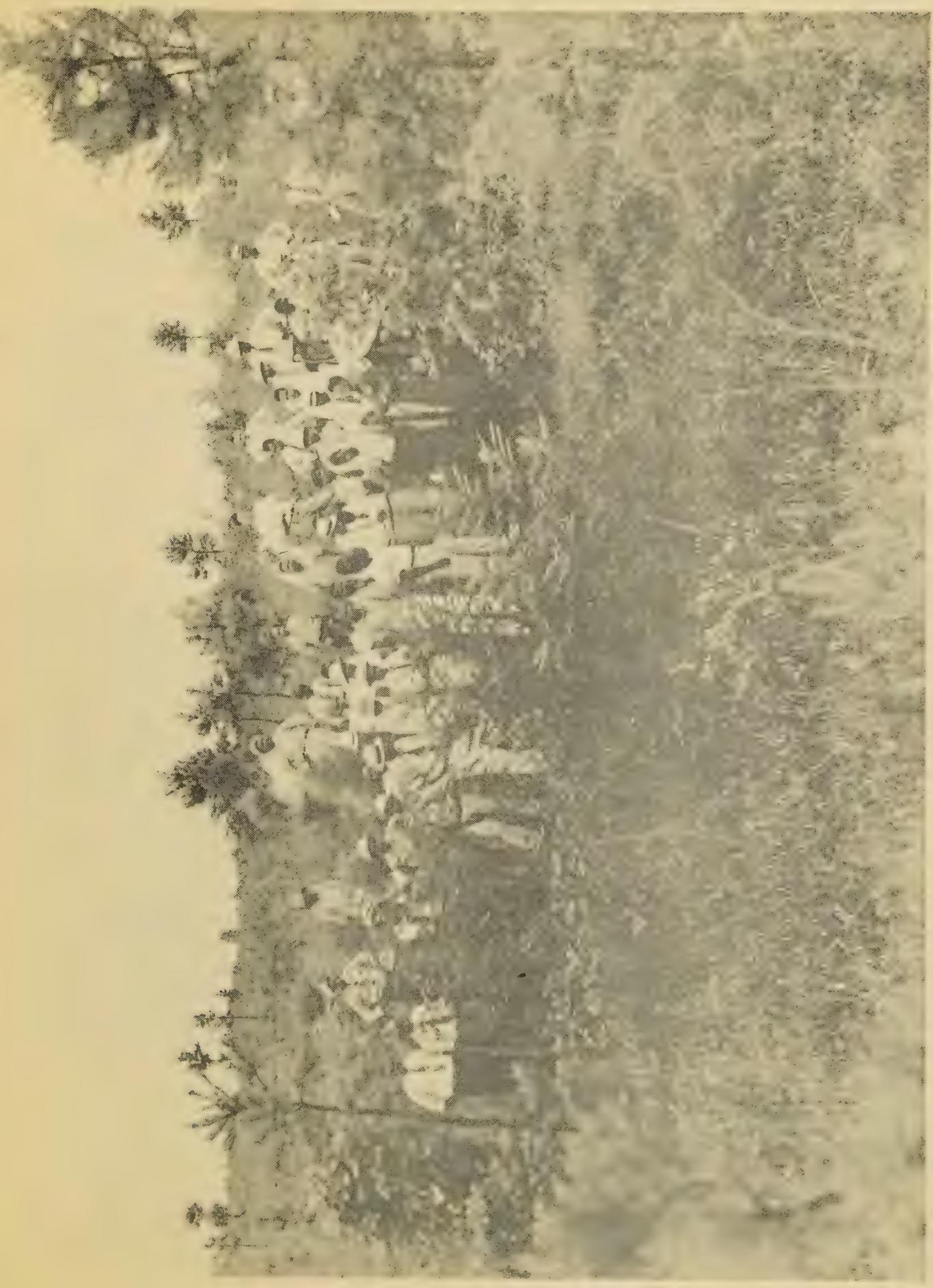


Figure 5. - Negro extension workers observing 2-year-old crop of blane' locust and vine on badly eroded area returning to forest.

The program, worked out and conducted by the State 4-H club leaders cooperating with the county farm and home demonstration agents, consisted of games, swimming, club songs and yells, and progress reports by club leaders. The climax of this demonstration club program was a play entitled "Bread," the characters being county 4-H club members.

The men agents of the summer school accompanied the county agent and a group of 4-H club boys who were carrying pigs as their projects to a nearby farm to inspect improved types of hogs.

The next day, Sunday, August 8, was devoted to a health tour in Russell County. The communities visited were Hatchechubbee and Colbert. Here doctors, health officers, nurses, and representatives of the extension service addressed large congregations gathered at the country churches. At all these meetings Field Agent T. M. Campbell presided. Following are excerpts from speeches made by the physicians.

Russell County Health Progress Must Go Forward

By

Dr. M. L. Shaddix
County Health Officer
Russell County, Alabama

Russell County has an area of 556.5 square miles and a population of 34,030, 71.5 percent of which is colored. Sixty-six percent of the county's rural population are tenants who have inadequate housing facilities and who live mostly in crowded quarters. These conditions jeopardize the health of our people. We are determined to turn darkness and misery into sunshine and smiles by properly safeguarding the health of our people. We must insist that permanent disease prevention depends largely upon environmental sanitation. From an economic viewpoint, this type of human welfare that we are stressing is rather hard to sell to the landowners, but eventually we shall succeed.

Our prophetic base is that physical security is essentially the pillar upon which we must build if we are to have a happy and free people. Our educational efforts are to explain and fight the "isms," mysticism, and outdated witchcraft, which one feels should no longer prevail but which nevertheless do exist. Roots and herbs are still given, so-called "body troubles" are treated, and all kinds of secret remedies are prescribed for infants, who might thrive if left alone.

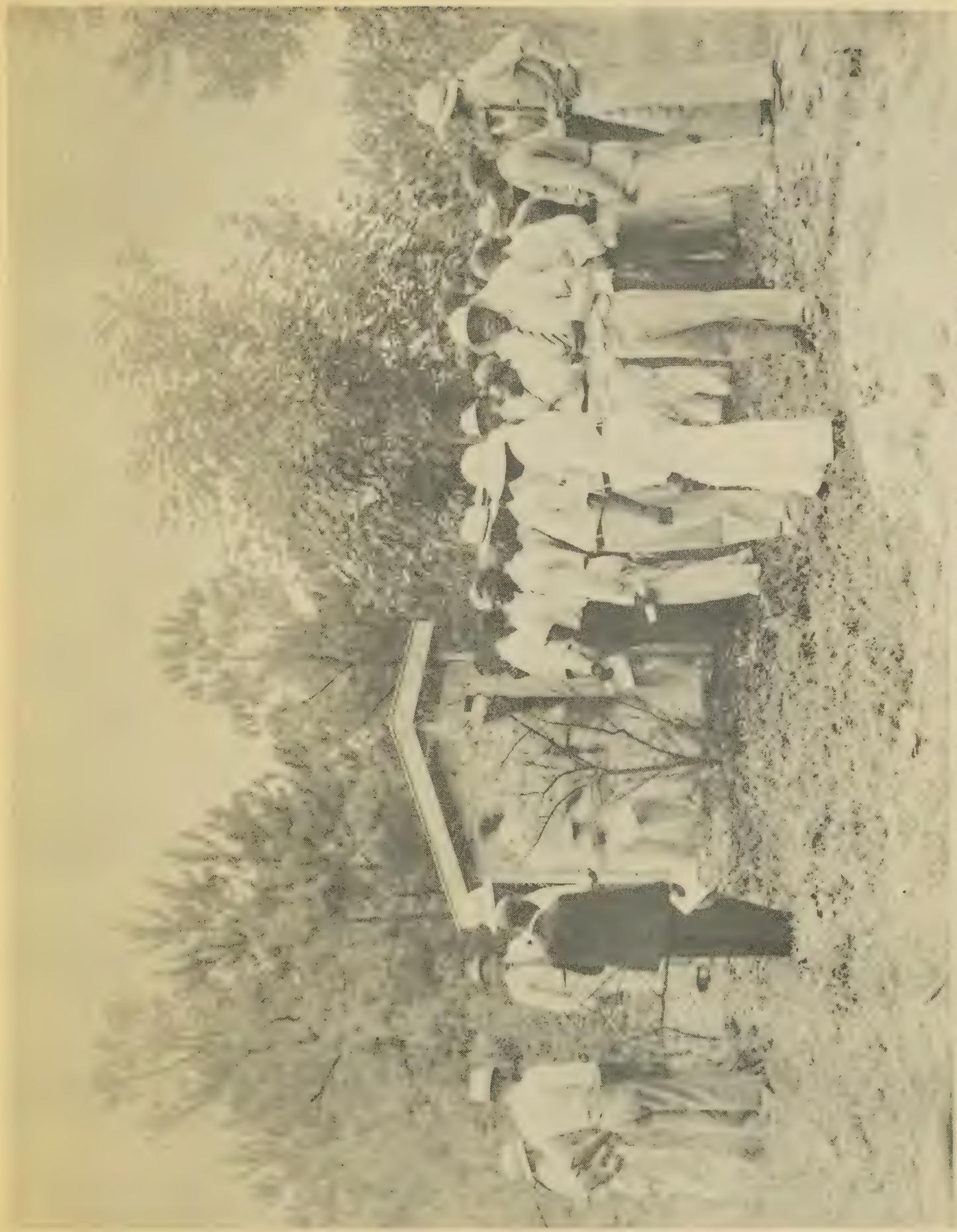
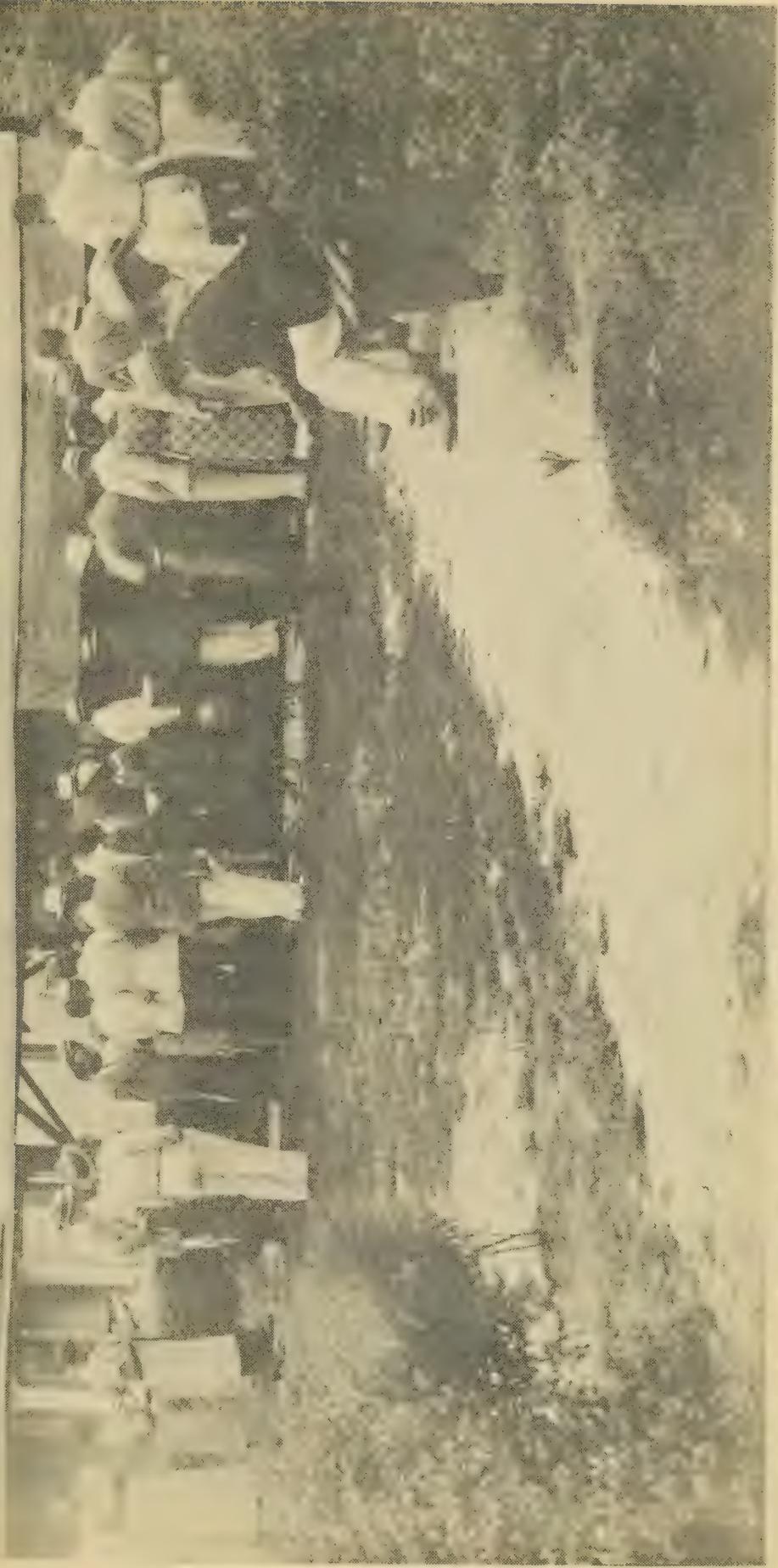


Figure 6. - County agents from 10 Southern States study a sanitary toilet at the home of L. C. Pollard, Shiloh Community, Meason County, Mississippi.

FIGURE 7.—Store and home distribution center built to facilitate Statewide Union County carry markets.



Our Common Community Advisers

By
Dr. E. H. Hudson
Union Springs, Alabama

What I mean by a "common adviser" is a person who always stands in the way, one who prevents people from getting medical aid from a real doctor by telling them to use this or that quack remedy. As a result we have much unnecessary suffering, and frequently death brings relief.

I want to emphasize the use of individual drinking cups in the country churches. You would be surprised to know how many diseases are contracted by persons drinking after each other. For example, tuberculosis and syphilis. As we know, the common adviser has a cure for almost any disease. But if we intend to have strong and healthy bodies, we must not give heed to these false prophets. See your family physician.

Some Factors of Health

By
Dr. William B. Perry
Venereal Disease Specialist
Working under auspices of the Rosenwald Foundation

It was a gorgeous sight this morning to behold the motorcade on Tuskegee Institute campus as it formed around the monument dedicated to the memory of the illustrious founder, Booker T. Washington. On that monument are deeply carved in stone these words, "We shall prosper in proportion as we learn to dignify and glorify labor." Here in this section of the South labor is supreme, and you are its prophets. Anything that the future has in store is largely determined by the manner in which you apply yourself to your daily appointed task. It is my hope that you will strive to safeguard your health with the same energy and enthusiasm with which you till the soil. Only through the channels of health can you enjoy the more abundant life toward which everyone should strive.

The chief essential for a good community is an ample supply of good water. It should be freely available to every household.

Diphtheria can be conquered. If all the parents would cooperate with the medical authorities and see to it that their children receive diphtheria immunization, this disease would disappear.

In this county clinics are being held for the purpose of immunizing the people against typhoid fever. This method has greatly reduced the number of deaths.

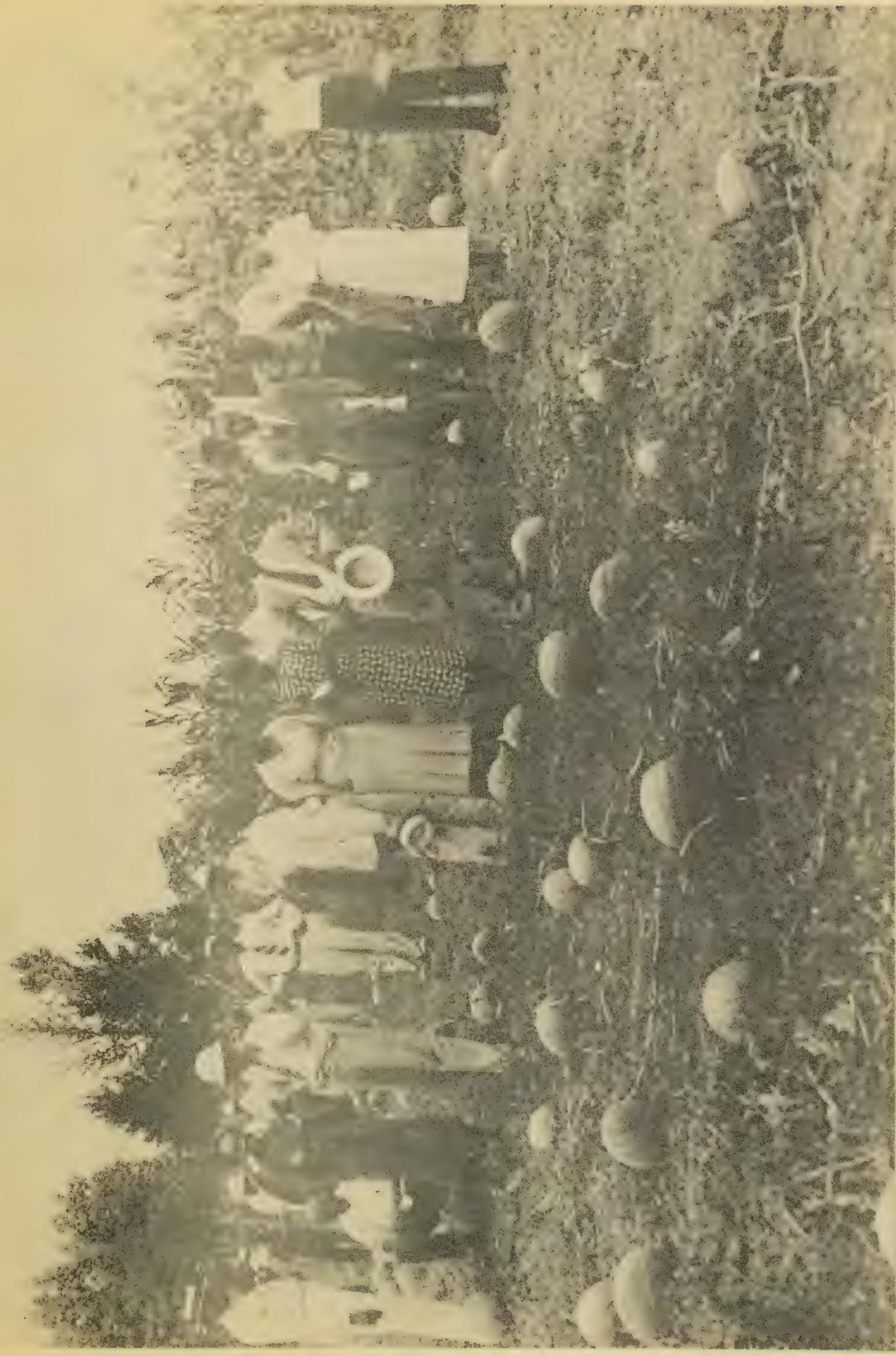


Figure 8. - Farm and home demonstration agents study melon growing as a supplementary cash crop.
The corn in the background is a demonstration following a winter crop.

There is another disease that we will consider. This disease is malaria. Throughout the world it causes more sickness and death than any other disease. However, here in Alabama, due to the splendid work of the State department of health, it is not as serious as formerly. Nevertheless it is ever present, and only constant vigilance will prevent an epidemic.

Our closing remarks shall deal with a disease that is commonly referred to as bad blood. Stop dosing yourself with so much patent medicine. Save your money to buy food. Bad blood is caused by a disease called syphilis. It is the worst enemy of mankind. The Government is waging unrelenting war on this disease. The State Health Department of Alabama is prepared to test the blood of every person for the detection of syphilis and provide treatment if necessary.

Dr. Perry closed his address with these pertinent statements: "In life there are certain standards that we must accept. If you break the laws of health you will be sick. If you break the laws of moral health you will be sick morally. Obey them and you will prosper."

Nurse J. L. Dent, of the movable school force, gave demonstrations. The general theme for all addresses during the day was "Health and Wealth." More than a hundred of the agents in attendance at the summer school made the health tour in their automobiles.

On Tuesday, August 10, S. J. Phillips, soils specialist, led the entire group of extension agents to inspect the soil-conservation area which consists of 400,529 acres. This land is located at Dadeville, Ala.

In agronomy the agents studied the system of strip cropping, contour furrowing, semierosion-control crops, erosion-resisting crops, permanent hays, and protected cover crops. Under engineering the agents studied terracing and gully control. In the course on wood-lot management they studied woodland planting, management, and forest-fire control.

On Friday night, August 13, H. H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, and a leading authority in this field, spoke on "Soil and Water Conservation." He told of the extent to which vast areas of farm lands in the Southeast and in other areas have been irretrievably lost through erosion and of the methods that have been developed for conserving the land. His illustrated lecture was a distinct contribution to the course.

Saturday, August 14, 1937, was devoted to a tour of Macon County farm and home demonstration projects. Macon County has a total farm population of 20,000; of this number 17,000 are Negroes. There are 21 farm and home demonstration clubs, with 842 club members enrolled representing 420 families.



FIGURE 1.—NARUHINA—MINAMINE GOZAN, 1678. TWO SCENES FROM THE "SUITEN SHIBORI NO TSURU." IN THE COLLECTION OF J. D. PHILLIPS, NEW YORK.

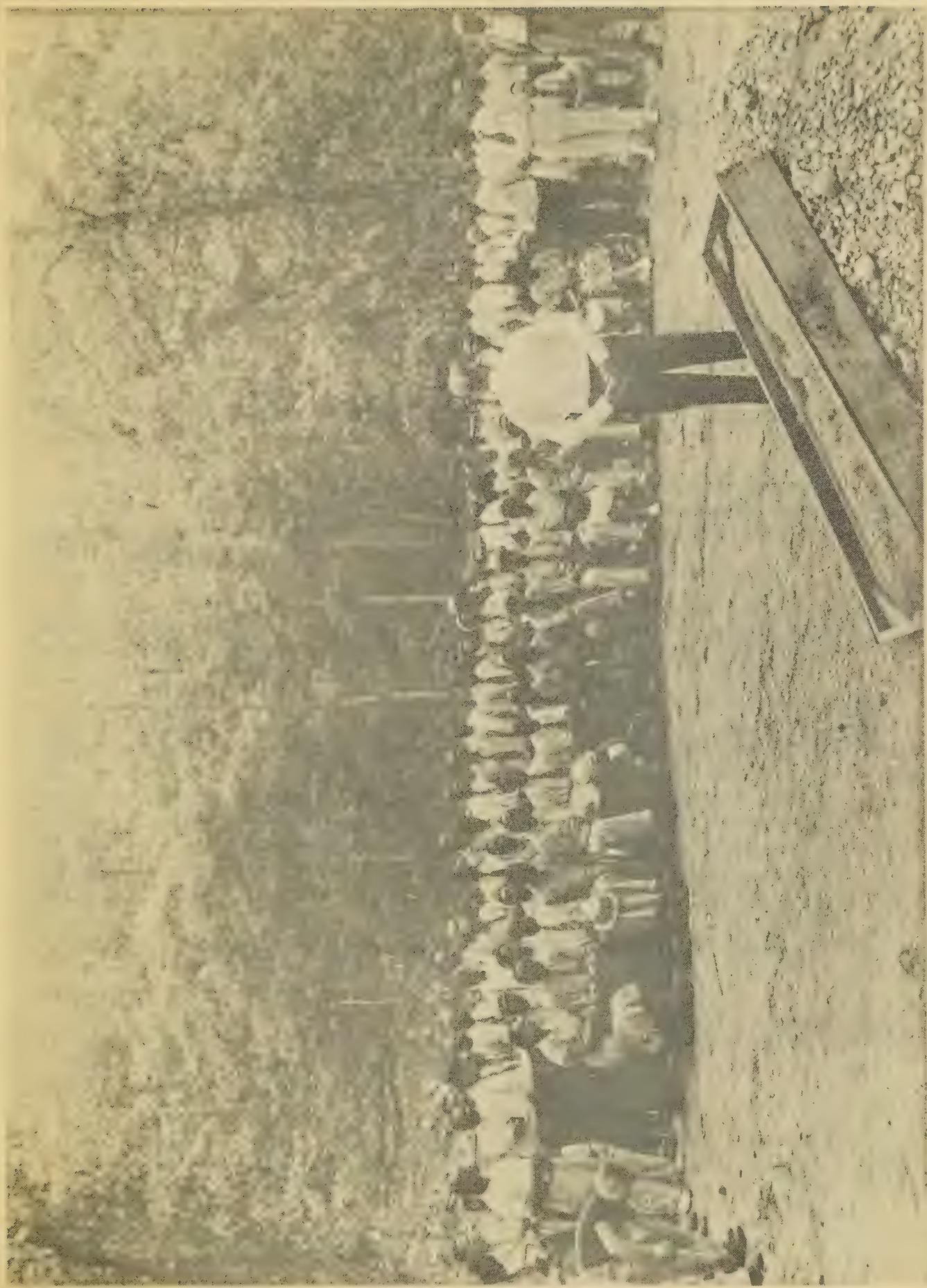


Figure 16. - J. E. Johnson, Project Manager, Dadeville Soil Conservation Service Project, speaking to group of Negro Extension Service workers from Tuskegee.

During the tour a cross section of country life, including owners, renters, and sharecroppers, was observed. Each group's reactions to the extension information and practices presented were noted. Various home and farm improvement projects were visited and inspected by the agents in attendance at the summer school.

The agents also inspected and studied four unit demonstrations in which the home and farm agents work together with the husband, wife, and children in a cooperative attempt to raise the general level of the home and farm.

On Sunday, August 15, Field Agent T. M. Campbell conducted a party of extension agents to the State Reform School for Negro boys at Mount Meigs, Ala., where they inspected the buildings, the modern class A dairy, the field crops, and the livestock on a 2,550-acre farm. They then returned to the assembly hall, where Dr. F. D. Patterson, President of Tuskegee Institute, was the principal speaker.

On a whole the tours made by the agents during the 3 weeks' course at Tuskegee were educational, inspirational, and recreational and served as a repeatable demonstration to them, emphasizing the possibilities of visual instruction.

The closing exercises for the course were held in the auditorium of Chambliss Children's House, Friday night, August 20, 1937, with J. R. Otis, director of the agents' summer course, presiding.

The general theme of the meeting was "Farm Tenancy and Landlord and Tenant Relationships," discussed from the point of view of the white landlord and the Negro landlord and tenant. Mr. Lee Hornsby, white landlord and president of the Bank of Eclectic, Ala., gave an interesting talk on the question as he viewed it, and several of his tenants were present to corroborate his statements. He told of the results he had obtained in 40 years as a landlord through encouraging his tenants to plant gardens and keep cows, chickens, and hogs so as to produce adequate food for the family.

R. L. Thomas, a tenant on the Hornsby plantation, discussed the question from his point of view, and stated that although he was doing well as a tenant, he aspired to be a landowner.

Mrs. Mary Simpson and J. D. Lewis, two Negro landlords of Macon County, who have several tenants on their farms, discussed the subject on the basis of their experience.

Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director, Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, gave the address for the occasion. He traced the development of extension work and the part it has played in "bringing to the farm more of those things which make life satisfying." He cited the progress that has been made in the field of Negro extension service during the 15 years since he was sent to Tuskegee to direct the



Figure 11. - Demonstration of the construction of the Nichols' terrace by J. B. Wilson, agricultural engineer, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala.

filming of a motion picture demonstrating the possibilities of Negro extension work and the movable school.

Following is an analysis of agent attendance by States.

Analysis of Attendance at Agents' Summer School

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama
August 2-21, 1937

| State | County agents | | Supervising agents | | Total |
|------------------|---------------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------|
| | Men | Women | Men | Women | |
| Alabama..... | 14 | 16 | 2 | 3 | 35 |
| Florida..... | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Georgia..... | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Louisiana..... | 9 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 19 |
| Mississippi..... | 14 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 36 |
| Oklahoma..... | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Texas..... | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Maryland..... | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Tennessee..... | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Kentucky..... | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Total..... | 46 | 58 | 6 | 6 | 116 |

Thus the first summer course of its kind for Negro extension agents in the Southern Region came to a close. All agents in attendance expressed a sincere hope that a course of this type may be repeated every summer, for the good of the service.

